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09/453,023	12/02/1999	RAFAEL HEREDIA	1364.1007	2048
	590 01/26/2004	(EXAMINER		
MCDONNELL BOEHNEN HULBERT & BERGHOFF 300 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE			CHEVALIER, ROBERT	
SUITE 3200			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
CHICAGO, IL	. 60606		2615	
			DATE MAILED: 01/26/2004	12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action. 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. 							
## Description of Claims ## Description Examiner Bob Chevaller 2015 ## The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address → Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE £ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. **Exercision of time may be available under the positions of 3 CFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely liked **Exercision of time may be available under the positions of 3 CFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely liked **Exercision of time may be available under the positions of 3 CFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely liked **Exercision of time may be available under the positions of 3 CFR 1.138(a). In an event, however, may a reply be timely liked **Exercision of time the majority of the positions of Carlos. ### Responsive to communication(s) filled on Office December 1999. ### Responsive to communication(s) filled on Office December 1999. ### Responsive to communication in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. ### Disposition of Claims ### Application is in an operation of a close and positions of the positions of Claims ### Application is adjusted to by the Examiner. ### Application is proposed drawing correction filled on		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
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Page 2

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Application/Control Number: 09/453,023

Art Unit: 2615

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

- 1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - Claims 1-37, drawn to a method of playing back a recorded signal in combination with the feature of "reproducing the recorded signal using previously stored preferences if the recording identifier is.....if the recording identifier is not found in the playback preference database", classified in class 386, subclass 105.
 - II. Claims 38-45, drawn to at least one database stored on a computer readable medium in combination with the feature of "a disc identifier when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded, a filename when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded file on a mass storage device", classified in class 386, subclass 125.
 - III. Claims 46-51, drawn to a method of controlling audio/video devices in combination with the feature of "the multiplexer circuit to route the first source to the first output", classified in class 386, subclass 98.
 - IV. Claims 52-54, drawn to a method of providing a graphical user interface for an audio/video control device in combination with the feature of "displaying on a video display device a first graphical user interface for the selected source", classified in class 386, subclass 52.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Application/Control Number: 09/453,023

Art Unit: 2615

The four groups of inventions are useable apart from each other and have unique specific structures not required of the other, and can therefore be separately useable as distinct inventions. For example, the method of playing back a recorded signal in combination with the feature of "reproducing the recorded signal using previously stored preferences if the recording identifier is.....if the recording identifier is not found in the playback preference database" as specified in claim 1 of Group I does not require the feature of "a disc identifier when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded, a filename when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded file on a mass storage device" as recited in claim 38, of Group II; the feature of "the multiplexer circuit to route the first source to the first output" as recited in claim 46, of Group III; and the feature of "displaying on a video display device a first graphical user interface for the selected source" as recited in claim 52 of Group IV.

Moreover, the at least one database stored on a computer readable medium in combination with the feature of "a disc identifier when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded, a filename when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded file on a mass storage device" as specified in claim 38 of Group II does not require the feature of "reproducing the recorded signal using previously stored preferences if the recording identifier is.....if the recording identifier is not found in the playback preference database" as specified in claim 1 of Group I; the feature of "the multiplexer circuit to route the first source to the first output" as recited in claim 46, of Group III; and the feature of "displaying on a video display device a first graphical user interface for the selected source" as recited in claim 52 of Group IV.

Application/Control Number: 09/453,023 Page 4

Art Unit: 2615

Moreover, the method of controlling audio/video devices in combination with the feature of "the multiplexer circuit to route the first source to the first output" as specified in claim 46 of Group III, does not require the feature of "reproducing the recorded signal using previously stored preferences if the recording identifier is.....if the recording identifier is not found in the playback preference database" as specified in claim 1 of Group I; the feature of "a disc identifier when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded, a filename when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded file on a mass storage device" as recited in claim 38, of Group II; and the feature of "displaying on a video display device a first graphical user interface for the selected source" as recited in claim 52 of Group IV.

Furthermore, the method of providing a graphical user interface for an audio/video control device in combination with the feature of "displaying on a video display device a first graphical user interface for the selected source" as specified in claim 52 of Group IV, does not require the feature of "reproducing the recorded signal using previously stored preferences if the recording identifier is.....if the recording identifier is not found in the playback preference database" as specified in claim_1 of Group I; the feature of "a disc identifier when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded, a filename when the recorded signal is obtained from a digitally encoded file on a mass storage device" as recited in claim 38, of Group II; and the feature of "reproducing the recorded signal using previously stored preferences if the recording identifier is.....if the recording identifier is not found in the playback preference database" as specified in claim 1 of Group I.

Application/Control Number: 09/453,023 Page 5

Art Unit: 2615

2. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for one Group is not required for the other, and have acquired a separate status in the art and because of their recognized divergent subject matter restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

3. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(l).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bob Chevalier whose telephone number is 703-305-4780. The examiner can normally be reached on MM-F (9:00-6:30), second Monday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on 703-308-9644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Application/Control Number: 09/453,023

Art Unit: 2615

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-

0377.

ROBERT CHEVALIER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Page 6

B. Chevalier September 24, 2003.